

**HENRY COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
MINUTES**

August 23, 2022 – 3:00 P.M.

The Henry County Board of Supervisors held its regular meeting on August 23, 2022, at 3:00 P.M. in the Summerlin Meeting Room of the County Administration Building, King's Mountain Road, Collinsville, Virginia. The following Board members were present: Jim Adams, Chairman; Joe Bryant, Vice-Chairman; Debra Buchanan, Garrett Dillard, Tommy Slaughter, and Ryan Zehr.

Staff members present were Dale Wagoner, County Administrator; JR Powell, Deputy County Administrator; George Lyle, County Attorney; Darrell Jones, Director of Finance; Michelle Via, Director of Human Resources; Brandon Martin, Public Information Officer; and Jennifer Gregory, Administrative Assistant.

Sheriff Lane Perry, Deputy Jason Keller, and Deputy Jeff Jones of the Sheriff's Office were present. Also present were Bill Wyatt of the Martinsville Bulletin and Maddy Oliver of the Henry County Enterprise.

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Mr. Adams gave the invocation and Mr. Bryant led the Pledge of Allegiance.

CALL TO ORDER:

Chairman Adams called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone. He stated that anyone who wishes to be on the agenda for the Board's regular business meeting at 3:00 P.M. must contact the County Administrator's Office seven days before a scheduled meeting. Those wishing to speak at the Board's public meeting starting at 6:00 P.M. may do so under the agenda item - Matters Presented by the Public without contacting the County Administrator's Office.

ITEMS OF CONSENT:

Confirmation of Minutes of Meetings

Copy included in Board's File.

- July 26, 2022

Resolution Recognizing the 50th Anniversary of the Dyer's Store Volunteer Fire Department

Approval of Accounts Payable

Copy included in Board's File.

Mr. Bryant made a motion to approve the Items of Consent, and Mr. Slaughter seconded it. The motion was approved by the following vote:

AYES: Adams, Bryant, Buchanan, Dillard, Slaughter, and Zehr.

NAYS: None.

REPORT ON DELINQUENT TAX COLLECTION EFFORTS

Mr. Grindstaff noted that 94.18% of 2021 real estate taxes and 92.41% of personal property taxes had been collected. Since January 1, 2022, TACS has collected approximately \$353,621.21. In addition, there were 19 VRW stops collected in July 2022, and 10 were collected in August 2022.

MONTHLY UPDATE FROM THE MARTINSVILLE-HENRY COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

Mr. Mark Heath, President/CEO of the Martinsville-Henry County Economic Development Corporation, was present to make the monthly update to the Board. Mr. Heath reviewed a summary of activities by division (Copy included in Board's File).

AWARD OF CONTRACT RE: RADIO SYSTEM MICROWAVE CONSULTANT – PUBLIC SAFETY

Mr. Wagoner said Public Safety Director Matt Tatum is asking the Board to award a contract to Bill Agee Consulting at a price not to exceed \$2,000 to assess the existing Henry County radio microwave system and assist with developing a Request for Proposal (RFP) to update the system. The current radio microwave system, placed in service in 2009, reached its end of serviceable life in 2021. Due to the complexity and priority of the emergency radio system, Mr. Tatum requests the assistance of a consultant to ensure all options to update or replace this critical piece of radio communications infrastructure are reviewed.

On a motion by Mr. Zehr and seconded by Mr. Dillard, the Board awarded the contract to Bill Agee Consulting at a price not to exceed \$2,000 by the following vote:

AYES: Adams, Bryant, Buchanan, Dillard, Slaughter, and Zehr.

NAYS: None.

ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION RE: ASSET FORFEITURE FUNDS – COMMONWEALTH'S ATTORNEY

Mr. Wagoner said Commonwealth's Attorney Andrew Nester is asking the Board to approve an additional appropriation of \$8,500 from State Asset Forfeiture funds to cover the cost of travel expenses.

On a motion by Ms. Buchanan and seconded by Mr. Slaughter, the Board approved the additional appropriation of \$8,500 by the following vote:

AYES: Adams, Bryant, Buchanan, Dillard, Slaughter, and Zehr.

NAYS: None.

ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION RE: ASSET FORFEITURE FUNDS – SHERIFF’S OFFICE

Mr. Wagoner said Sheriff Perry asks the Board to appropriate \$19,566 from the State Asset Forfeiture funds for the purchase of radio headsets for the Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT) team. Sheriff Perry explains the need to improve communications capabilities during tactical and special operations is imperative to the safety of the deputies. Headsets will provide the deputies with the ability to receive instructions and updates over the radio without compromising their position.

On a motion by Mr. Zehr and seconded by Mr. Slaughter, the Board approved the appropriation of \$19,566 from the State Asset forfeiture funds for the purchase of the radio headsets by the following vote:

AYES: Adams, Bryant, Buchanan, Dillard, Slaughter, and Zehr.

NAYS: None.

AWARD OF CONTRACT RE: COURTHOUSE SECURITY IMPROVEMENTS – SHERIFF’S OFFICE

Mr. Wagoner said Sheriff Lane Perry is asking the Board to award a sole source contract in the amount of \$133,500 to Montgomery Technology Systems (MTS), LLC of Greenville Alabama to replace the security locks, access controls and camera system in the Henry County Courthouse. Sheriff Perry explains the system is old, unrepairable and needs replaced to provide a higher level of security within the courthouse.

On a motion by Mr. Slaughter and seconded by Mr. Zehr, the Board awarded the sole source contract of \$133,500 to Montgomery Technology Systems LLC to replace the security locks, access controls, and camera system at the courthouse by the following vote:

AYES: Adams, Bryant, Buchanan, Dillard, Slaughter, and Zehr.

NAYS: None.

ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION AND AWARD OF CONTRACT RE: COMPREHENSIVE CLASSIFICATION AND COMPENSATION STUDY – HUMAN RESOURCES

Mr. Wagoner said in September 2021, the Board of Supervisors directed staff to hire a firm to conduct a comprehensive classification and compensation study for Henry County, including the Henry County Sheriff’s Office and the Henry County Public Schools. Since then, our Human Resources Manager Michelle Via has worked closely with a committee of employees, including representatives from the School System and the Sheriff’s Office, to develop and review proposals from qualified vendors. The Committee is recommending the Board award a contract to Evergreen Solutions, LLC in the amount of \$74,550 to perform the study. There were no funds budgeted for this item. Therefore if the Board wishes to move forward with the study, funds will also need to be appropriated for this purpose. Staff recommends the Board appropriate the County’s share of \$37,275 from the

Board's contingency fund. The School Board has agreed to cover the other half of the costs.

On a motion by Mr. Bryant and seconded by Mr. Zehr, the Board awarded the contract of \$74,550 to Evergreen, LLC for the study and appropriated the needed funds of \$37,275 from the Contingency Fund by the following vote:

AYES: Adams, Bryant, Buchanan, Dillard, Slaughter, and Zehr.

NAYS: None.

CONSIDERATION OF A FIRE-EMERGENCY SERVICES MUTUAL AID AGREEMENT – PUBLIC SAFETY

Mr. Wagoner said Public Safety Director Matt Tatum is requesting the Board approve a mutual aid agreement with Pittsylvania County for Fire and Emergency Services. The agreement formalizes the process already in place of providing both localities with fire and/or EMS assistance, career or volunteer, should a situation overwhelm either localities resources.

On a motion by Ms. Buchanan and seconded by Mr. Bryant, the Board approved the mutual aid agreement between Henry and Pittsylvania County for Fire-Emergency Services by the following vote:

AYES: Adams, Bryant, Buchanan, Dillard, Slaughter, and Zehr.

NAYS: None.

COMMENT PERIOD FOR THE 2022 JUSTICE ASSISTANCE GRANT (JAG) – SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Mr. Wagoner said Sheriff Lane Perry indicates that the Sheriff's Office has applied for the 2022 Edward Byrne Justice Assistance Grant (JAG). If awarded, the grant will provide \$17,262 to assist with overtime expenses in high-crime areas and for major incidents. The grant requires the governing body to provide a public comment period of at least 30 days. Sheriff Perry is asking the Board to set the public comment period beginning August 24, 2022, and ending on September 24, 2022. Anyone wishing to comment on the grant application should contact Sheriff Perry via email or by calling the Sheriff's Department. The grant will be brought to the Board at a future date for acceptance and appropriation.

On a motion by Mr. Zehr and seconded by Mr. Slaughter, the Board established a 30-day comment period beginning August 24, 2022, and ending on September 24, 2022, to receive additional input regarding the JAG grant application by the following vote:

AYES: Adams, Bryant, Buchanan, Dillard, Slaughter, and Zehr.

NAYS: None.

CONSIDERATION OF A RESOLUTION DESIGNATING PHASE 6A OF THE DICK AND WILLIE PASSAGE TRAIL AS PUBLIC OUTDOOR RECREATION LAND

Mr. Wagoner said as a requirement of the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) grant, the 19.64 acres of land included in Phase 6A of the Dick and Willie Passage Trail requires a designation as public outdoor recreation area in accordance with the provisions and requirements of the LWCF Act of 1965, as amended. The Board needs to approve the proposed resolution to designate this area as recreation space.

On a motion by Mr. Zehr and seconded by Ms. Buchanan, the Board approved the resolution (copy included in Board's file) by the following vote:

AYES: Adams, Bryant, Buchanan, Dillard, Slaughter, and Zehr.

NAYS: None.

CONSIDERATION OF A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A GRANT APPLICATION TO THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FOR PHASE 7 OF THE DICK AND WILLIE PASSAGE TRAIL

Mr. Wagoner said in planning for Phase 7 of the Dick and Willie Passage Trail, staff is requesting consideration of the proposed resolution authorizing an application to the United States Department of Transportation (USDOT) for funding assistance through their SS4A grant program. Such funds will allow for the creation of an action plan designed to improve roadway safety in and around the corridor of the trail. Phase 7 is the portion of the proposed trail that will run from the trailhead on Virginia Avenue to Philpott Lake.

On a motion by Mr. Bryant and seconded by Mr. Zehr, the Board approved the resolution (copy included in Board's file) by the following vote:

AYES: Adams, Bryant, Buchanan, Dillard, Slaughter, and Zehr.

NAYS: None.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

Comments from the Board

Mr. Lyle said the City had asked the Supreme Court to declare the special legislation requiring a referendum on reversion unconstitutional and that the Supreme Court should act immediately. The Supreme Court did not act and subsequently dismissed the case. Mr. Lyle said the three-judge panel would be in a position to proceed with the matter concerning reversion.

Mr. Dillard thanked staff for coordinating his attendance at the VACo County Officials Summit. He said a lot of good topics were discussed.

Mr. Wagoner said several events were happening last weekend in Martinsville-Henry County, including Senior Citizens Appreciation Day, Movie in the Park, TGIF, Smith River Fest, Bassett Cruise In, and Uptown Music Fest. On Friday, September 9, and into the weekend, the Information

Services department will install a significant software upgrade. The Treasurer's Office and PSA Customer Service will be unable to accept payments or access records Friday afternoon, and online payment option may be interrupted. The Virginia Association of Counties (VACo) has awarded a 2022 Achievement Award Blue Ridge Fire & EMS Academy, a joint venture between Franklin, Henry, and Patrick Counties. Mr. Lyle reported the County received its first Opioid settlement check for \$49,609, with two more payments to arrive later in the year. Mr. Wagoner said Henry County has more people working now since 2003. This number is significant since the population has declined in the area in the last two years.

CLOSED MEETING

Mr. Zehr moved that the Board go into a closed meeting at 3:33 P.M. to discuss the following:

- A) §2.2-3711(A)1 for Discussion of Appointees to the Blue Ridge Regional Library Board, Parks and Recreation Board, Southern Virginia Recreation Facilities Authority, and Dan River Alcohol Safety Action Program Board
- B) §2.2-3711(A)7 for Discussion of Pending Legal Matters
- C) §2.2-3711(A)3 for Discussion of Acquisition/Disposal of Real Estate
- D) §2.2-3711(A)5 for Discussion of As-Yet Unannounced Industries

Ms. Buchanan seconded the motion, and it passed by the following vote:

AYES: Adams, Bryant, Buchanan, Dillard, Slaughter, and Zehr.

NAYS: None.

OPEN MEETING

The Board returned to open meeting at 5:17 P.M. on a motion by Ms. Buchanan, seconded by Mr. Zehr, and it carried by the following vote:

AYES: Adams, Bryant, Buchanan, Dillard, Slaughter, and Zehr.

NAYS: None.

CERTIFICATION OF CLOSED MEETING

Mr. Powell read the Certification of the Closed Meeting and took a roll call vote.

Board members voting in the affirmative were Mr. Zehr, Mr. Dillard, Mr. Bryant, Ms. Buchanan, Mr. Slaughter, and Mr. Adams.

Blue Ridge Regional Library - On a motion by Mr. Zehr and seconded by Ms. Buchanan, the Board unanimously approved the appointment of Larissa Rash to an unexpired term ending June 30, 2023.

Dan River Alcohol Safety Action Program Board - On a motion by Mr. Bryant and seconded by Mr. Zehr, the Board unanimously approved the appointment of Tierra Dillard to an unexpired term ending March 31, 2025.

Mr. Adams recessed the meeting at 5:23 P.M. until 6:00 P.M.

Mr. Adams welcomed everyone to the 6:00 P.M. portion of the meeting.

GENERAL HIGHWAY MATTERS

Lisa Hughes, Resident Engineer for the Virginia Department of Transportation, updated the Board on general highway matters.

CONSIDERATION OF A RESOLUTION ADDING DUPONT ROAD TO THE VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (VDOT) SECONDARY ROAD SYSTEM

Mr. Wagoner said as part of the construction of the Adult Detention Center, the County made significant improvements to DuPont Road, making it eligible for acceptance into the secondary road system. Staff is asking the Board to approve the proposed resolution requesting the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) to place the road into its secondary road system. Once in the system, VDOT will take responsibility for its maintenance and snow removal.

On a motion by Mr. Bryant and seconded by Ms. Buchanan, the Board approved the resolution (copy included in Board's file) by the following vote:

AYES: Adams, Bryant, Buchanan, Dillard, Slaughter, and Zehr.

NAYS: None.

PUBLIC HEARING – REZONING APPLICATION R-22-12 – JOSEPH CLARK

Mr. Clark said the property is located at 177 Wheeler Ave. in the Collinsville District. The Tax Map number is 29.7/74. The applicant is requesting the rezoning of approximately 0.79 acres from Suburban Residential District S-R to Commercial District B-1. The applicant wishes to convert the existing building into a medical office.

Mr. Adams opened the public hearing at 6:06 P.M. There being no one present who wished to speak, Mr. Adams closed the public hearing at 6:06 P.M.

On a motion by Mr. Bryant and seconded by Ms. Buchanan, the Board approved the rezoning request by the following vote:

AYES: Adams, Bryant, Buchanan, Dillard, Slaughter, and Zehr.

NAYS: None.

PUBLIC HEARING – REZONING APPLICATION R-22-13 – RANDY AND TINA WILLIAMS

Mr. Clark said the property is located across from 2521 Reed Creek Drive in the Reed Creek District. The Tax map number is 16.6/181N. The applicant is requesting the rezoning of approximately 2.22 acres from Suburban Residential District S-R to Agricultural District A-1. The applicant wishes to construct accessory storage buildings on this property for personal use.

Mr. Adams opened the public hearing at 6:08 P.M. There being no one present who wished to speak, Mr. Adams closed the public hearing at 6:08 P.M.

On a motion by Mr. Slaughter and seconded by Mr. Zehr, the Board denied the rezoning request by the following vote:

AYES: Adams, Bryant, Buchanan, Dillard, Slaughter, and Zehr.

NAYS: None.

PUBLIC HEARING – REZONING APPLICATION R-22-14 – KATY WINESETTE

Mr. Clark said the property is located immediately south of 2090 Axton Road in the Iriswood District. The Tax Map number is 55.9/160D. The applicant is requesting the rezoning of approximately 2-acres from Agricultural District A-1 to Commercial District B-1. The applicant wishes to construct a garage on the property to conduct a small engine repair business and potentially expand to provide auto repair.

Mr. Adams opened the public hearing at 6:10 P.M. Mr. Dillard asked Mr. Clark a few questions regarding zoning. There being no one present who wished to speak, Mr. Adams closed the public hearing at 6:17 P.M.

On a motion by Mr. Garrett and seconded by Mr. Zehr, the Board denied the rezoning request by the following vote:

AYES: Adams, Bryant, Buchanan, Dillard, Slaughter, and Zehr.

NAYS: None.

PUBLIC HEARING – REZONING APPLICATION R-22-15 – GLENNA T. YOUNG

Mr. Clark said the property is located on the northeast side of Deerfield Lane, approximately 0.1 mile north of Stones Dairy Road, in the Blackberry District. The Tax Map numbers are 25.9(9)/40A, 40C. The applicant is requesting the rezoning of 2 lots, one consisting of approximately 4 acres, and the other consisting of approximately 0.63 acres. The lots are proposed to be rezoned from Suburban Residential District S-R to Rural Residential District R-R. The applicant wishes to market the property for sale for the potential placement of manufactured homes.

Mr. Adams opened the public hearing at 6:19 P.M. There being no one present who wished to speak, Mr. Adams closed the public hearing at 6:19 P.M.

On a motion by Mr. Zehr and seconded by Ms. Buchanan, the Board approved the rezoning request by the following vote:

AYES: Adams, Bryant, Buchanan, Dillard, Slaughter, and Zehr.

NAYS: None.

PRESENTATION BY THE HENRY COUNTY-MARTINSVILLE FIREFIGHTERS ASSOCIATION

Lee Cooley, representing the Henry County-Martinsville Firefighters Association, expressed their appreciation of the Board's support to the volunteers, and presented the Board with t-shirts.

MATTERS PRESENTED BY THE PUBLIC

No one present wished to speak.

Adjournment

There being no further business to discuss, Mr. Slaughter moved to adjourn at 6:22 P.M. Ms. Buchanan seconded the motion, and it carried by the following vote:

AYES: Adams, Bryant, Buchanan, Dillard, Slaughter, and Zehr.

NAYS: None.